



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
4050 Crums Mill Rd., Suite 203 · Harrisburg, PA 17112

Results of a recent survey are contained in this release. You can also find it on our site at www.nass.usda.gov/pa/ and click on the Pennsylvania Publications link.

Contact: Kevin Pautler, 717-787-3904
nass-pa@nass.usda.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pennsylvania Hog & Pig Inventory Unchanged from a Year Ago

HARRISBURG, PA, Mar 25, 2011 - - There were 1,110,000 hogs and pigs on **Pennsylvania** farms on March 1, 2011, according to the Pennsylvania Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). This estimated inventory was unchanged from both the December 1 inventory and the March 1, 2010 inventory.

Market hog inventory, at 1,015,000 head, was up 5,000 from December and unchanged from a year ago, while breeding herd inventory, at 95,000 head, was down 5,000 head from December, and unchanged from March of last year. The December 2010-February 2011 pig crop totaled 470,000 head, up 14,000 head or 3 percent from March a year earlier, but down 15,000 head from the September - November 2010 pig crop. There were 47,000 sows farrowed during the quarter, down 1,000 head from December and unchanged from a year ago. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 49 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 10.0, down 0.1 from the previous quarter, but up 0.3 from the 9.70 pigs per litter for March a year ago.

Pennsylvania hog farmers intend to have 47,000 sows farrow during both the March-May and June-August quarters, down 2,000 from the number that actually farrowed in March-May 2010 and 3,000 less than actually farrowed in the June-August period one year ago.

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2011, was 64.0 million head. This was up 1 percent from March 1, 2010, but down 1 percent from December 1, 2010. Breeding inventory, at 5.79 million head, was up slightly from last year, and up slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 58.2 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, but down 1 percent from last quarter.

The December 2010 - February 2011 U.S. pig crop, at 28.0 million head, was up 1 percent from 2010, but down 2 percent from 2009. Sows farrowed during this period totaled 2.86 million head, down 1 percent from 2010, and down 5 percent from 2009. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 49 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was a record high 9.80 for the December 2010-February 2011 period, compared to 9.61 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.50 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.90 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.85 million sows farrow during the March-May 2011 quarter, down 3 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2010, and down 5 percent from 2009. Intended farrowings for June-August 2011, at 2.87 million sows, are down 3 percent from 2010, and down 3 percent from 2009. The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with over 5,000 head but raised by contractees, accounted for 46 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, up from 44 percent last year.

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